THE AIM OF SOCIALISM.

A PAPER BY THE REV. JOHN H. OERTER. IMPORTANCE OF THE SOCIAL QUESTION - HOW SOCIALISM PRESENTS ITSELF-ASSERTIONS OF ITS ADHERENTS-THE STATE OF THE FUTURE-PROPERTY, RELIGION, MARRIAGE.

To the Editor of The Tribune. SIR: At a meeting of the ministers of the Reformed Church in America, held this morning, the Rev. John H. Oerter read a paper on "Socialism," which was so favorably received that it was "resolved that Mr. Oerter be requested to present his paper to The Tribune for publication, that the largest circulation may be given to it."

Very truly yours, may be given to it." WM. B. MERRITT, Secretary.

New-York, May 20, 1878.

THE PAPER. Among all questions which at present occupy the that be. The reason for this is found in the fact, teration or far-reaching improvement of what exists, but rather the introduction of an entirely new order should have a clear understanding of the specific And here you will allow me to call your attentionwhich, on the basis of these assertions, Socialists put to society.

Socialism presents itself to us in those organizations which are known by the name of "Social-Democrats," "Socialistic-Labor Party," or as far as lications, we find that the followers of this scheme strive at the abolishment of all evils, economic and destroy the werfare of the people; and they assert | not break out at the same time in all the principal that all these destructive and ruinous conditions | cities-in Berlin, Madrid, etc." are but the inevitable consequences of the present But we have to enter more into details.

THE SYSTEM OF PRODUCTION.

In the dominion of labor, trade and commerce, free competition sways its sceptre; that is, each individual enjoys the right and privilege to produce, buy and sell as much as he pleases. His liberty in this respect is only checked by the same liberty of those around him. But now the Socialist achievement of Socialism. And then? Well, then asserts that in the course of time this very system of free competition has enabled one and another to leave the race-course with greater advantages than the rest. A wise and prudent combination of circumstances, which on the field of production must be taken into consideration, and in addition to this what in common life is called luck, left the one at the end of the very in the possession of a greater profit than the least but not the least but not the least that not the least achievement of Socialism. And then? Well, then the long-hoped for millenium of unbounded prosperity and happiness will be ushered in. Now, on the basis of the foregoing principal demand, the socialists further claim; (1) An equal rendering of work and an equal time for such labor. In the socialistic State was also to judge the exertions of the Socialists further claim; (2) An equal time for such labor. In the socialistic State was an equal time for such labor. In the socialistic State was an equal time for such labor. In the socialistic State was an equal time for such labor, in the socialistic State was an equal time for such labor. In the socialistic State was an equal time for such labor, in the interest of the socialists achievement of Socialism. And then? Well, then the least the long-hoped for millenium of unbounded prosperity and happiness will be ushered in. Now, on the basis of the foregoing principal demand, the socialists further claim; (1) An equal time for such labor. In the socialist scenarios are accustoment of the varieties of the social the carried in the least that most of the socialist scenarios and azitates are accusto

lowest standard. Besides this, the invention and in troduction of numerous machines, by which manual labor is made superfluous, essentially increase the

A second consequence of this one-sided system of production, according to Socialistic assertions, is the fact that labor is not paid according to its intriusic value, but only in proportion to its being offered and demanded. Socialists call this the cruel, iron law of wages. For instance, a workman is em ployed ten hours a day. During that time he accomplishes a work which secures to the employer, after the deduction of running expenses, a net gain of \$5. Of this sum the laborer receives only \$3, and the rest flows into the pocket of the capitalist. In this case the workman receives in fact, so the Socialist will tell us, only three-fifths of the value of labor furnished, while the other two-fifths are claimed by his employer without having given any equivalent. By way of this arrangement human labor has become an article of merchandise, whose value will always be estimated in proportion to the amount offered or demanded. And not even that. For Lasalle will teil us: The average wages always remain reduced the necessary livelihood, as according to custom, it may be requisite for the prolonging of existence and for propagation. This is the point around which the actual hire will always gravitate, without ever rising for a longer time above this point, or falling below it." (Arbeiter Programme.) In short, the present system of industry is in every way calculated to fleece the working class, and to deprive it of its very marrow. The consequences of this depressed condition are lasting poverty, misery, and a host of other social and political evils, out of which grow a continuous commotion of the community, an uprising of the mass of disinherited paupers against the few millionaires, strikes, lockouts-in short, a social war of the masses against the power and influence of capital in the hands of a few. These are about the rough outlines of the picture, as the Socialist has sketched it, of the present conditions of things. Time, however, does not permit me to adduce the necessary proof from Socialistic publications. ASSERTED PRINCIPLES OF SOCIALISM.

Now in opposition to this presumed unhappy state of affairs, Socialism places itself on the foundation of the following asserted principles: Men as such, as members of one and the same family, are equal. Hence they must be permitted to obtain the same position as regards economic, social and political standing. This equality, then, necessarily demands that all should not only be able to enjoy, but that they actually should enjoy, the same liberty in the different relations of life. This sublime and noble end will be reached by the conviction, common to all men, that all are brethren. Equality, liberty and fraternity are, therefore, the fundamental maxims and sentences which the Socialists empha size, and on the ground of which they believe it is fully justified to present the following claims and demands. According to the above representation, private capital in the hands of a few unprincipled men is the very cause of the disparity and glaring contrasts in the social conditions of life. Hence the Socialist demands, above everything else, that all private property as an instrument of production should be abolished and be transferred to the community. In the year 1868 the Congress of the International Labor party, in its session in Brussels, issued the declara tion that "coal mines, mines in general, soil, canals highways, telegraph-institutes, machinery, etc., be long to society, i. e., to the laborers, and that suchproperty must be employed and used for their in-

terest." It (the Congress) started from the supposi tion that all these things, if private property, afford to the owner the power "to keep all the other members of society in economic and political dependence." In the year 1869 the same Congress, in its session in Basle, asserted: (1) "The community possesses the right to abolish all individual property real, and to transform the same into property common. (2) It is in the interest of the commonwealth that such a transformation should take place." The Labor party of the United States in their Congress of Union, in Philadelphia in 1876, issued the follow-

ing: "Whereas, political liberty without economic equality is only an empty phrase, therefore the party agitates for the present only in the domain of economy (economics), and demands that all instruments of labor (soil, machinery, highways, etc.) should be made the property of in order to put into the place of merce nary labor, the production of the community, with a just distribution of the proceeds of labor." The fundamental demand of Socialism, therefore, is Among an questions society, the Social question is the abolishing of all private property as far as it is and and obtedly the most urgent and important. It an instrument of production, for the purpose of has found its way not only into the very last "beer | making it capital of society. The individual is insaloon." but even up to the thrones of the powers | deed permitted to possess separate property as regards the means of life and articles of comfort and which cannot be ignored, that since the origin of entertainment, but he cannot own capital that the present regulation of society, no question of such | would enable han to produce or manufacture for stupendous and world-wide importance has ever his own interest. Hence the charge, so often made, been made the order of the day. For this move- that Socialism intended to divide the existing ment does not, perchance, contemplate a partial al- property into equal parts among the people, is an erroncous one and without proof. The right to such a transmutation of private capital the Socialist deand formation of the economic, political and reli- rives from the assertion that such a change would duce but one example out of the nahmited number gious relations of the present. Socialism aims at a be for the interest of mankind, and in this case the of the different issues? The New-York Volks Zeilung complete reconstruction of society on the rains of individual had to subordinate his own interests to of February 12, 1878, writes: the old. For this reason we may well pay some attention to this intended radical revolution. But in siders all private property in its present form as doing so it is of the utmost importance that we | theft; that is to say, it asserts that in consequence of the above described method of industry,

aim and design of this fremendous movement before the employer at the outset takes away from we attempt to criticise its import and bearing upon the lawful and just returns of the labor existing relations. With your permission, I will, of the employé, and thus appropriates to himself therefore, try to sketch in a few marked outlines a property which does not belong to him, but in the intent and purpose of the present Socialism. fact to the laborer. For this very reason the Socialist does not hesitate a moment to demand the said first, to the assertions, and, second, to the demands | transformation of capital, as thereby the individual would obtain his own again. This radical change one part of the Socialists, especially the followers of Lasalle, expect to be brought about by way of enlightening the minds of the people and by way of legislation; while the apparition of revolution is they have become international, by the name of the | haunting the heads of the chief ngitator, Marx, and "International Labor Association." In the follow- his followers. In his closing remarks at the session ing pages reference is had exclusively to this form of the International Labor Association in 1872, he of Socialism. Now in examining their official pro- used, for example, the following language; "We grammes, the explanations given by their most must acknowledge that in most of the countries of prominent originators and leaders, and the repeated | the Continent, force must be the lever by which our statements of their daily papers and transient pub- revolution is to be brought about. We shall have to appeal at last to force, in order to establish the sovereignty of labor. The revolution must be sal politic, by overthrowing and removing altogether utary, and we find a grand example in the Comthe present regulations of the community. The mune of Paris, which fell because a mighty revolu-Socialists, therefore, pretend to notice at present a | tionary movement, standing in connection with this mass of misfortunes and evils which check and | powerful uprising of the Proletarians in Paris, did

The second demand of the Socialists is, private enmethod of industry and political arrangements. terprise being out of the question, that all labor, trade and commerce should be conducted and regulated by the community, and finally by the State. And as this new organization of industry will soon spread over the entire globe, there will be no more clashing of contending interests of the different countries, but a glorious union of all nations for

as above twenty years of age; direct legislation by

of government, be it constitutional monarchy or republic. Hence the charge so often raised against the followers of this scheme, of being enemies of their own country and government, is only too wellfounded. When Germany some years ago was emy across the Rhine, government was compelled to keep a vigilant eye on the Social Democrats and their movements at home, lest they should cause internal disturbances, while the gallant army was

achieving glorious victories abroad. The same opposition to our Government manifests itself in recent Socialistic publications in this country. On the 16th of March, 1878, for example, The New-York Volks Zeitung commented with great satisfaction and approval upon the following item from the columns of

Proval upon the following item from the columns of The Ohio Volks Zeitang:

Now there are many who entirely agree with us as far as European conditions of affairs are encerned, but who, as soon as the United States are in question, are stricken with blindness and at once commence to ignore all laws of logic. These, who would had the red flag in Paris, Berlin and Petersburg, look upon its being infolded here as upon a crime. According to their columnon the star-spangled banner waves so high and lefty that they consider any opposition to it as the giving up of all efforts for liberty. With beaming eyes they tout us to the time of straggle for independence, to Eminer Hall, Lexington and other names, and to the war of canancipation, etc. They mention the names of Washington, Jefferson, Abrinan Lincoln, etc., and cannot understand what is to be said against all that. But we say this is all very good and nice, but it does not prove anything. With the liberation of the Proletariat these events and men have little or nothing to do. The stor-grangled banner waved over currents of liberty, which were for the benefit of the class of the bourgeoise, but which did not better the condition of the laborer. For the honor of 2,000,000 of tramps and double that number of starving Preletarian families, this symbol of liberty beams upon the nation. And we should be inspired for it No; how differently does our symbol flame up, the symbol of love, warmth and light! On its background the stars shine differently does our symbol flame up, the symbol of the Proletariat in 1793, the struggles of the workingmen in 1848 and 1871, the inighty increase of Social-Devocracy in Germany, and the vectory of that pollicococy in Germany and the vectory of that pollicococomic revolution, for which we, too, stand up, Hence we do not abandon it, but sing it high in rapid march against the accursed regulations of the present State of castes (classes). Threaten it, ye hypoertical enemies; despise and insultit. Before you are aware of it, it will be plan

Need we be astonished that on this eminently free soil even the terrors of the French Commune in 1872 should have been made the object of enthusiastic anniversary celebrations on Sunday, March 17, 1878, by almost all Socialistic societies through out the country? Certainly not. As to the wonderful changes that will be produced by the inauguration of this State of the future, Socialists assure us that a condition of prosperity, happiness and morality will be ushered in, of which at present we are atterly incapable of forming any adequate conception. It is therefore no wonder that the Social-

For example: In the statutes of the International Labor Association we find the following sentence: "The International Labor party declares that societies and individuals desirous of joining it acknowledge truth, justice and morality as the rule of their conduct toward each other and toward all men, without regard to color, belief or nationality." The German Socialistic Labor party defined its position in regard to religion by declaring the same a "private matter." But indefinite as the official references of Socialists to religion may be, the declarations and expressions of their most prominent speakers in their Congress meetings and of their party-agitators, are all the more clear and distinct. For example: The Frenchman Dupont, a member of the General Council of the International Labor Association closed a meeting of Congress in the following words: "What we desire to overthrow is not the tyrant, but tyranny. We do not want any covernment, because expecting the same and the second demand—that labor was desired to the second demand—that labor and the second demand the second demand—that labor and the second demand the second demand the vale matter." But indefinite as the official references of Socialists to religion may be, the declarations and expressions of their most prominent speakers in their Congress meetings and of their party-agitators, are all the more clear and distinct. For example: The Frenchman Dupont, a member of the General Council of the International Labor Association closed a meeting of Congress in the following words: "What we desire to overthrow is not the tyrant, but tyranny. We do not want any government, because govern. We do not want any government, because govern-ments crush us by taxation; we do not want any armies, because armies kill and slaughter us; we do armies, because armies kill and slanghter us; we do not want any religion, because religions choke reason." In the same year the party associates of the Russian leader Bakmine, in a meeting of the Congress for Peace in Berne, issued the following manifesto: "The Alliance declares itself atheistic; it seeks the abolishment of all worship, the supplanting of behet by science, of divine justice by human, the abolishing of marriage as a political, religious and civil institution." Varlin, the head of the International Labor Association in Paris, in a meeting of Congress uttered the following blasphemy: "The good Lord has served long enough, we have enough of him." Murat pronounced the Bible "a code of immorality," and the Englishman Morley called the Profestant ministry of Ireland "a dark army of Profestant ministry of Ireland "a dark army of 20,630 masked men."

The same spirit of atheism speaks out of the official organs of the party. May I be allowed to ad-

Our opponents assert that Social Democrats are enc-nies of all relation and do not believe in a God. Now, his regroach, as terrible as it may seem to some, is not diogether without foundation. Yes, we Social-Demo-rats are opposers of everything that faisely is con-encied to the definited masses as religion. We do not believe in a Supernatural Being, we do not believe in a susponal God, in an averening and resonances are sersonal God, in an averening and resonances are selieve in a Supermatural Beitig, we do not believe in a sersonal God, in an avencing and recompensing thingoity, Camiscient, Ali-abse God, who, in his cond-iess and mercy, in spite of his camipotence, can permit utilities of men on earth to languish in the hird bonds of slavery and satignation, white on the eth r band a sew without their own merits live in revelry and riching, cod on the sweat of the suppressed and disunferrited, and augh at human misery. We Sociallists do not pull at the riumphal carriage of the Presst; we do not take reason aprive. We do not want to believe, but to observe. We are not so ignorant as to re-ticulate to these clerical lerds our claims at temporal copy ments for inducated manna of heaven. Ve are not stoped enough to believe that there is a life

From these extracts, which could have been multiplied indefinitely, it will be seen that the Socialist of the present day is the bitter enemy of everything | personal, holy and just God, and from the power and tian. Nay, more; his advance on the domain of re- Gospel of Je-us Christ has been permitted to become ligion is by far more radical and permicious than on a power over the individual or a nation, the moral, that of economy. For here he purposes at least to religious, social and national life, even among the build up his imaginary State of the future out of the | most degraded and degenerated tribes, has been elefragments of the broken-down and demolished structure; while in reference to religion he is de-termined to exterminate root and branches. And this serious charge is not in the least neutralized by the somewhat strange fact that most of the Social-

mon life is called luck, left the one at the end of the year in the possession of a greater profit than the rest of the competitors. The former, therefore, at the beginning of another year could enter the commercial arena with still greater advantages, as he had a greater equital at his command. In this way one part of society has continually risen in the scale of financial and productive ability and skill, while the greatest portion has sunk down into powerly, misery and need.

The first effect of this unequal development is the gradual dimution and final supplanting of that must obtain its full right and removerable consumer, but which now is compelled to join the position of manufacturer as well as of laborer and consumer, but which now is compelled to join the raising of daily laborers again, thereby occurred and equal columnts of the furnition of the fourth of the furnition of the position of manufacturer as well as of laborer and consumer, but which now is compelled to join the raising of daily laborers again, thereby to underlot on the fact that he considered in the position of manufacturer as well as of laborer and consumer, but which now is compelled to join the last of the furnition of the fact that he consumer, but which now is compelled to join the last of the furnition of the fact that he considered from the consumer, but which now is compelled to join the last of the furnition of the fact that he considered from the consumer and consumer, but which now is compelled to join the last of the furnition of the furnition of the position of manufacturer as well as of laborer and consumer, but which now is compelled to join the last of the furnition of the position of manufacturer as well as of laborer and consumer, but which now is completely to manufacturer as well as of laborer and consumer, but which now is completely the position of manufacturer as well as of laborer and consumer. The position of manufacturer as well as of laborer and consumer, but which now is completely of the furnition of the posi For his State of the future the Socialist des of the Russian Bakmine, in the year 1868, adopted mands universal, equal and direct suffrage for per- into their programme the following sentences: "As the people; decision of war and peace by the people; it is our intention—first, to abolish the right of inberitable property; second, to establish a complete
committy of political and social rights of women to stead of standing armies, etc.

Now, for this novel organization of an economic-political State of the people, Socialism strives with a frenzysso that nothing short of the realization of its projects will satisfy it. Nay, more than that, in spite of these national and permitions paragraphs, the London Central Committee in the year 1869 received this very party as a section into the international Labor Association, thereby solently sanctioning her monimishe position as to marriage.

(3) It is a well-known fact that former Socialisis, as Fourier, Eatentin, Owen and others, have advocated "Free Love." But the same has been done of late by Section No. 12 of the Socialistic Labor Party of New York, hy receiving into its membership the notorious Woodhull and Claffin; and only a few months ago one of the chief agitators in Würtenberg, Dr. Daik, in a Social Democratic club in Stattgart, publicly expressed himself in favor of polygamy as the most ethical form of marriage according to refined conceptions, while on the other hand, he denomiced Christian marriage as a decidedly immoral matiture. These examples of loose, impure notions as to matriage could have been multiplied, but these few may suffice to show that Socialism with a reckless hand is trying to demolish the most sacred relations and hallowed usages of the present Christian society.

The result of our investigation establishes the

fact that Socialism is striving at Communism in regard to economy, at Republicanism as the form of government, and at Atheism in reference to rengion. Of course the advocates of this scheme are well aware that these ends cannot be reached over night. But they know only too well that by a constant agitation they will make some points. Hence they develop such a systematic, ceaseless activity as history has not recorded for a long time. By word and press, through mass-meetings and secret sessions, by a paid colportage, as well as by volunsions, by a paid colportage, as well as by voluntary distribution of innumerable publications; in short, by anything and everything, the Socialists of our day are busily engaged in the dissemination of their pernicious tenets. There are not less than seventy daily and weekly publications in Germany, and about twenty-one in this country, which openly avow and advocate Socialism, besides the thousands of pages of occasional literature of the vilest sort which day after day are put into the hands of the working class. Can any of you for a moment doubt the extreme necessity to look sternly into the face of this serious and dangerous movement! A short outline of the truth and errors in Socialism will outline of the truth and errors in Socialism will

TRUTH AND ERRORS IN SOCIALISM. According to our previous representation, Socialism demands the abolishment of private capital, because it sees in that the main, nay, the only source of all social misery. Now it cannot be denied that under the present system of industry, private capital has become a power which is working disastrously in every sphere of social and political life. Socialism, therefore, is perfectly right and justified in calling the attention of the public again to the evils which check the common welfare and cause such a deep dissatisfaction among the working class. But the conclusions which Socialism draws from the fact that such evils do exist are utterly unwarranted. And here we object first to its definition of private capital, because it is simply not true that the same, as such, is and must of necessity be an instrument for producing nothing but

ception. It is therefore no wonder that the Socialistic press pronounces the realization of these magic ideas, "the salvation of the world," and the appearance of Socialism "the veritable saviour of mankind." S. Dietzgen, Rel. 4. Neue Soc. Dem., 1873, No. 117, 107.

RELATION OF SOCIALISM TO RELIGION.

In conclusion it remains for me to show the relation of Socialism to religion. And here it is a remains for me to show the relation of Socialism to religion. And here it is a remains for me to show the relation of the social misery. There are other fountains from which flow the turbid waters of human wretchedness and misfortune. I refer only to that unsurmountable indolence of so many robust beings, who would rather live a life of extreme poverty than shake off their laziness; to the fearful spread of drunkenness and dissipation, with their long train of unnumbered and untoid ovil consequences; to

In reference to the second demand-that labor should be organized and conducted by the community or State-it may be admitted that to a certain extent the idea of cooperation is found in the Christian community of the New Testament, and in the teachings of Christ and His apostles. Besides this, there are examples on record in history which go to prove that a blending together of comnon interests may become an excellent means of
improving the condition of the laboring class, and
to counteract one-sided mammonism. But as soon
as Socialism attempts to introduce such an organization by force—and it could not be done in any other
way—it tramples under foot individual liberty.
Besides, who could for a noment suppose that such
a compulsory arrangement would work satisfactorily
to all as long as the members of the present society
differ so widely as to quality of adaptation, education, opinions, customs, etc. It is certainly no matter of surprise to find that even the inner history of
the International Labor Association is but a record which go to prove that a blending together of comthe International Labor Association is but a record of jealous instituations, mutual accusations and ex-communications.

As to the third demand-the laborer must receive the full return of his work-we have to make the somewhat humiliating confession that in thousands of cases the workman is not paid in proportion to the work actually furnished. It is certainly not for the honor and glory of our so far advanced and enlightened time that labor is indeed more or less an article of merchandise. Socialism, therefore, is right in demanding for the suppressed working class a fuller, more proportionate compensation. But when, in doing so, it avers that nothing but labor actually performed creates value, and that, in consequence of that, nothing but labor is entitled to the profit, it makes itself guilty of a misrepresentation and of injustice to those essential factors which, besides bodily exertion, contribute to the value of an article, namely, the intellectual management of the employer, and capital in the form of money, buildings, machinery, etc. But if the social question is ever to be solved, the three producers of value, bodily and mental labor and capital, must receive each one its full, just and adequate reward.

The overtherow of religion.

The most fatal error, however, Socialism is committing by persistently attempting to uproot all religion and to establish atheism. For the past history of mankind has proved beyond a shadow of doubt the following itwo facts: (1) The nations of the capital for the following itwo facts: (1) The nations of the capital for the complaint should the following itwo facts: (1) The nations of the capital for the provided class a fuller, more proportionate compensation.

the earth, from the beginning of time up to the present day, have sunk down into idolatry, moral gradation, and badily misery just in proportion as they have separated themselves from the belief in a influence of genuine religion, (2) Wherever the vated to a standard of which previously to that time they had no conception. Now, as Socialism ignores and sets aside these well-attested historical facts, it rears a building without a foundation and facts, it rears a building without a foundation and opens the door to the incessant intoad of vice and crime. For as soon as a higher, holy and determinating will of a personal God is denied, moral responsibility ceases, and the distinction between right and wrong, good and evil, is at once abolished. Socialism itself has furnished some alarming examples in this respect. It is well known that Enfentin used the expression: "What exists is God. Hence the desires wants of the flesh are of a divine nature." Fourier and Cabet declared: "The enjoyment is the highest and last good. All inclinations are good, but that all cannot be satisfied is sin. The end and aim of life is the greatest possible satisfaction of all de-

materialistic creed and pronounced affects... And
if at any time it should succeed in extinguishing the
last residue of consciousness of a moral responsi-bility, then the irreligious and unprincipled masses
will call my a spirit of nariehy and destruction,
which will overturn all existing laws and orders of

NEWPORT

A DULL SEASON PREDICTED-ARRIVAL OF SUMMER RESIDENTS.

NEWPORT, May 31.-It is feared that Newport will have this Summer a rarely dull season. Trades-men read, with dismay in the list of "departures for Europe" the names, by the score, of families who for years dents of the place, also, have departed for Paris. Per-haps, under these circumstances, the owners of many will themselves occupy the buildings this year.

During the Summer it is proposed to have a loan exhi-

tion which is known throughout the country. This movement has been set on foot for the purpose of reduction the debt (\$7,000) on the cerporation, neutred by the building of a large addition for an art gallery.

Packy the

The cottagers are arriving slowly. Among the late arrivals are Mr. William Gammell, of Providence; Mr. George Nugent, of Philadelphia, and Mr. Henry G. Marquand, of New-York. The Rev. Henry C. Graves, of Fall River; Dr. C. B. Porter, of Boston; Mrs. Crocker, has leased his handsome coffage on Washington at, to Mrs. M. A. Hayward, of Boston. Mr. and Mrs. James M. Drake, of New-York, are at their cottage on Red Cross-ave. Protessor William Cook, of Harvard College, has taken a cottage at Conanient Park for the season.

THE SOLDIERS' HOME AT BATH.

ORGANIZATION OF THE NEW BOARD OF TRUSTIES. ALBANY, May 31 .- The Trustees of the Soldiers' Home, at Bath, Steuben County, recently ap-pointed by the Governor and Senate, met here this aftermoon and organized. The length of their respective terms was decided by lot, as follows: One year, General Quimby, General Wm. T. Rodgers and A. J. McCall; two years, General N. M. Crane, Jonathan Robie and John F. Little; three years, General Henry W. Slocum, General James McQuade and B. B. Taggart. On motion, it was ordered that the Executive Committee consist of five members. General Slocum was elected president, J. F. Little secretary, and General Crane treasurer. The following were chosen as the Executive Committee: Messrs. McQuade, Rodgers, Robie, Taggart and McCall.

Mr. Parkinson, secretary of the old Board, presented Mr. Parkinson, secretary of the old board, phesence the financial statement of the old Board, showing the amount now on hand to be \$1,906.86, less \$128 for inc-dential expenses. The indebtedness of the old Board, in-cluding contracts, is \$13,000. The buildings are all up-sued inclosed, the total amount thus far expended being \$08,270.65. The bond of the treasurer was fixed at \$10,000. The Board then adjourned, to meet at the

HAMILTON COLLEGE ORATORICAL CONTEST.

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. CLINTON, N. Y., May 31.-The annual contest in declamation at Hamilton College will take place on Monday evening, June 24. The Faculty has made the following appointments:

following appointments:

Junior Class—James M. Bennett, Pittsburg, Penn.;
William S. Carter, Onelda, N. Y: Herbert H. Gettman,
Richfield Springs; Gilbert Reid, Youngsfown.
Sophomore Class—Albert D Gettman, Richfield Springs;
Seth G. Hencock, Buffalo; George H. Ot'oway, Clinton;
Walter B. Wincaell, Waterville.
Freshman Class—Leslie R. Groves, Westmoreland;
Robert W. Hughes, Augusta; Walter L. Kinsley, Angola;
Clinton B. Scollard, Clinton.

THE COURTS.

WHARFAGE RIGHTS ON THE NORTH RIVER. A SUIT THAT MAY INVOLVE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS. Four suits against the City and the Dock Department were tried yesterday before JudgeVan Brunt in Supreme Court, Special Term, involving directly over \$200,000, and it is said, in principle, some millions of dollars. This is because there is a large number of persons now claiming the right to wharfage on both the East and North Rivers, whose claims rest on a similar East and North Rivers, whose craims rest on a similar footing to that of the plaintiffs. These plaintiffs are Matthew Wilkes and others, Woodbury G. Langdon and others, Ceella L. Vollbech and others, and Louisa D. Kane and others. All derive title to wharfage between King at and Leroy st. on the Hudson River from John Jacob Astor.

In 1897 the State granted to the city all its rights in the how the property of the form the low-water.

Jacob Astor.

In 18-97 the State granted to the city all its rights in the land under water for 400 feet from the low-water mark. Mr. Astor owned the uniford, and the city conveyed to him, in 1810, the land to West-st., which was about 125 feet beyond low-water mark, on condition of his building and maintaining West-st.; the right to the wharfage of the buildhead on the west of the street was also conveyed to him. The plaintiffs, until recently, have received wharfage under this grant. In 1871 the Dock Department was created with powers to make a new plan, and this new plan involves making West-st., at the point in question, 250 feet wide and running long piers from it. The plaintiffs claim that the department is doing it without regard to their rights and ask that the city be enjoined from going on with the work, or compelled to pay the value of the wharfage right to them. The city claims that the agreement of 1810 was a limitation of Mr. Astor's riparian rights to the cast side of West st., with a more rivecuble licenise to him of the wharfage of the opposite buildhead, and that in fact as riparian owner he had no right to land below the low-water mark.

Judge Van Brant reserved his decision, Richard S. Emmet and Thomas L. Orden appear for the plaintiffs; William C. Whitney and D. J. Dean for the city and the Dock Department.

SEVEN DIVORCE CASES.

APPLICATIONS, REFERENCES AND OTHER PROCEED-INGS. Isaac S. Block obtained, last January, an ab-

solute divorce from his wife, Leah Block. She applied yesterday to Judge Robinson to have that divorce opened. She admits that the summons was served upon her, but says it was at once taken away by one of her husband's friends. She denies the charges of adultery and abandonment made against her. Judge Rob

Judge Donohue granted, yesterday, an order of publication in the divorce suit of Jane Sidgreaves against Jo-seph Sidgreaves. The wife says she was married at

FOUR COLORED RUFFIANS.

James O'Brien, of Forty-fourth-st. and Ninth-ave., was routed in a low saloen at Thompsen and Broome-sts., Thursday evening, by three colored rutians. He followed them out of the saloon calling for help, when one of the men, James Mackin, stabbed him in the

when one of the men, James Mackin, stabled him in the to become the moral, mong the among the steen electrons of the English Precinet, arrested Mackin, but the other robbers escaped. Yesterday Judge Murray held Mackin in \$1,000 bail for trial.

A colored buil took piace in the evening of Decoration day, at Forty-second st. and sixth-ave. William Judah, a colored bail cook, and sixth-ave. William Judah, a colored bail room, whereupon he was again pair out. He attempted to recenter the ball room, whereupon he was again pair out. He clowd. One builted took effect in the shoulder of George where and street in the shoulder of George with white and some cellar steps. Officer Heaville and such as the close of the colored to the colored harbor, of No. 327 West Thirty-eighthest, and should be closed to the closed of the close

A CURIOUS QUESTION OF REBATE.

The suit of Peter Baker & Co. against Recknagel & Co., tried before Judge E. L. Fancher in the Court of Arbitration, presented a curious question. The plaintiffs bought a quantity of fire-crackers to arrive from China " in bond," Peter Baker & Co. to be allowed any relate of customs for damage to the fire-crackers.

DECISIONS MAY 31.

Supreme Court - Chambers - By Judge Lawrence, -Limer set the Augustar Motor Company - M. foot denied see memorandum German Savings Back set. Structureer and others. Stolled to confirm their port of the referred segment

in on the trial, and the cases
rt Cames due to the Christopher and South Street
e.—Issues settled. The Christopher and South Street
finad Company ast, the Central Crossowa Railroad Comyr, See Smended minurs.
is Judge Van Vorst.—Funcan agt, Domean and others—
is Judge Van Vorst.—Funcan agt, Domean and others—
is Judge Van Vorst.—Funcan agt, Domean and pair

Saucrior Court-Special Term-By Chief-Justice a case the receiver does not succeed in the action. Knaps as the receiver does not succeed in the action. Knaps as Simon of al.—Motion to place cause in cleudar of Short inses densed without cost. Fries agt. Price-ortyrize dollars coursel fees; \$3 per week alimony lowed defendant. Firischauser agt. Koarnan et inteler of discontinuace. Operat, p. agt. Counce al.—Ordered on day calcular for second Friday of June. Prentiss vs. Conner et al.—Order discontinuace. Operat, p. agt. Counce al.—Order Wash.—Ordered on day carendar for hirst Monday June. Prentiss vs. Conner et al.—Order dismissing commit. Bougall agt. Clark. Reference ordered. Tracy agt. sec.—Papers to be left with Clerk at Special Term. Mayer et al. agt. Hayenays of the sec. Common Pleas-Special Term-By Judge J. F. Daly

Common Pleas—Special Terms—By Juage J. F. Daly, In the matter of sandak—Report referred back to panion. Jarvis, jr. agt. Squbr.—The motion to competitive receiver to fine security for costs is denied on the ground that it is not shown that the action is improvingintly brought, nor that he has acted otherwise than in good faith. Beyerset, Bistops—Extra allowance of \$50 granted. Loudes agt. Loucks.—See opinion and decision. Burne agt. Duffy.—A certificate of the Certa maste by research, with the papers showing the deposit was made by the contractor, Stehael Duffe. In the matter of Beers, etc.—Beterrol back for further proof, opinion. Rowell agt. Clegg.—Order for discontinuing will be granted, payment of costs of action and \$10 cost of this motion, opinion. Cohnet al. agt. Feler.—Befordant must pay \$20 costs to plaining a storing as a condition of his discharge in the processings. Whitehead et al. agt. Kennedy.—Motion granted, no costs orbinion. In the matter of the application of Benedict, etc.—Ordered to Chamberiam to pay over deposit to petitioner, Amella E. Benedict.

Amelia E. By Judge Larremore.—Cushing agt. Carpenter et al.—Judg By Judge Larremore.—Cushing agt. Carpenter et al.—Judg ment for plantificancelline band and mortgage upon the pay-ment of \$676.76, with interest, together with costs of this a-tion as to the defendants to be settled by the Clerk of the Court-Fond father: "Well, my son, how do you like college! Alma Mater has turned out some great men." Young hopeful (just expelled): "Yes, sir; she has turned me out."—[Hartford Times.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE. MINIATURE ALMANAC.

MINIATURE ALMANAC.

10-DAY.
10

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

Blackiev, G. S. Curtia, Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Chinic, E.R. Cropper and valet, F. Dobell, Capt. R. R. Drummond and wife, Mr. Haskell, Mrs. Jane Henry, J. Hessinz, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Jebb, John Kelly, George Kirkland, R. Laerox, G. T. G. Musson, James Morand, Jas. McDonall, W. P. Mall, Mr. and Mrs. J. Nictolson, Capt. Norton, W. P. Potts, C. W. Potts, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Fletce, Miss Flerce, J. H. Sparks, W. M. Strachan, J. Sears, Baron and Haroness Elizabeth Schonberg, Mrs. and Mrs. J. Sears, Baron and Haroness Elizabeth Schonberg, Mrs. J. H. Sanuford, Master H. M. Stnody, Major J. J. Upham, U. S. A., Mr. Weeks, Dr. D. B. Webster and wife, Miss E. Webster, Miss M. Webster, Indan't and nurse, W. F. Gunn, Mr. and Mrs. J. Nicholson, W. A. Wilcock, J. G. Underwood, Ph. Malone, Alfredo Mercano, Mr. and Mrs. Gonzales Libertz, and child, Mrs. M. J. Calso, G. Gonez, J. E. Didal, Z. A. Vidal, R. de Vizando, General Gomez Fernandez.

PASSENGERS SAILED.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO—By Steamship Acapulco.—Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Kunath, Mrs. F. I., Sawyer and child, Edwin Sawyer, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. O'Nell, E. E. Wise, Mrs. A. Tinney, Miss Tinney, Mrs. C. O. Peters, Miss Ellen M. Tucker, O. W. Metlar, Mrs. F. A. Taylor, Robert L. Walsh, Lieutenant A. B. Dyer.
FOR CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA.—Mrs. Rayne and six children, Alfred Bayne, Dr. Elliot, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Nugent, two daughters and three children, Mr. and Mrs. V. H. Valentine, two sous and four servants, M. von Hippel, Herman Messan, C. M. Schröder, Dixon Provand, J. Rayes, P. A. Solar, G. T. Currie, B. Victorian, R. S. Sauches, J. Thornington, Miss Whitmore.

SHIP NEWS.

PORT OF NEW-YORK CLEARED

CLEARED.

Steamship Ethiopia (Br.), Campbell, Glasgow, Scot., Henderson Bros.
Steamphip Castalia (Br.), Gringle, Glasgow, Scot., Henderson Bros.
Steamship Acapulco, Clapp, Aspinwall, Pacific Mail Steamship Acapulco, Clapp. Steamship City of Dallas, Hines, Fernandina via Port Royal, C. H. Mullory & Co. City of Washington, Timmerman, Hayana, Cubs. F. Alexandre & Sons.
Steamship Allaumbra (Br.), McEthinney, Halifax and St.
Johns, N. F., Clark & Seaman.

Steamship Ann Eliza, Warren, Philadelphia, Jas. Hand. Ship Alexander (Br.), Brown, Bremen, James W. Elwell \$ Co.
Ship Eureka, Woodworth, San Francisco, Sutton & Co.
Bark Ammpolis (Br.), Delay, Havre, J. W. Parker & Co.
Bark Henry Knight, Pendleton, Santanefer, Spain, Re

Bros. & Co.

Bark Geatfell (Br.), Morrison, Hull, Eng., Ira Olas & Co.

Bark Pomona (Nor.), Jonassen, Copenhagen, Bockmann
berlein & Co.

Octricin & Co.

Bark J. (Ser.), Pfeiffer, Bremen, E. Pavenstett,
Bark J. (Nor.), Apenes Cork for orders, C. Tobias & Co.
Bark Leans, (Br.), Cochran, Cork for orders, C. W. Bertaux,
Bark Lyngwer (Br.), Petersen, Rigs, Russia, Funch, Edys

& Co.

Bark Water Lily (Br.), Davies, Foney, Eng., for orders,
John C. Seager.

Bark Antelope, Simpson, St. Johns, R. P., J. de Rivers ous & Son. Bark Cherokee (Br.), O'Leary, Newark, N. J., C. L. Wright

FOREIGN PORTS.

City Island, heavy, N. E.

LONDON, May 31.—The steamship Thames, Capt. Campbell, from Moutreel May 13, has arrived here.

The steamship W. A. Scholten, Capt. Vis, from New York, has arrived at Rotterdam.

Liverpoot, May 31.—The Ancher Line steamship California, Capt. Paniels, from Bailimore May 12, arrived here to-day,
The steamship Pembrore, Capt. James, from Beston May
15, has arrived.

Guershows, May 31.—The Cunard Line steamship Marathon. Capt. Garrett, from Roston May 18, for Liverpool,
touched at this port at 6 o'clock lost evening.

The White Star Line steamship Germanic salled from this
port at 4.50 p. m. for New-York.

ANTONION, May 31.—Salled, 30th inst., steamship Switzerland, Jackson, New-York.

LONDON, May 31.—Salled, 13th inst., Lottle Beard, 28th
inst., Attitio, 30th inst., Bunato, Vittor Pharie, both for
New-York, Carolina Z. Tathsman, both for Felaware Breakwater.

Artived: Esth inst., Nettic, Emilia, Clemence, Marie; 30th
inst., Isspenent, Giovannia, Ned White, the latter at Adenade.

[For Latest Ship News see Fifth Page.]

[For Latest Ship News see Fifth Page.]

furmunre.

DESKS and OFFICE FURNITURE, LIBRARY TABLES, BOOKCASES, &c., T. G. SELLEW AGENT for THE CELEBRATED "WOOTON" DESK

1807 "OLD RELIABLE." 1878

71 YEARS' EXPERIENCE HAVE ENABLED

COWPERTHWAIT,

153, 155 AND 157 CHATHAM-ST.

Also a large stock of higher priced, but equally cheap,

Knowing almost everybody we don't require references

14 LARGE WAREROOMS,

COWPERTHWAIT. 153, 155 AND 157 CHATHAM-ST.

Bre Eream. A FACT.-HORTON'S ICE CREAM IS MADE FROM PURE ORANGE COUNTY CREAM.

25c, PER QUART. To FAMILIES by the GALLON, 30C. PER QUART, CHARLOTTE RUSSE and JELLY, FRESH, RICH and DELICIOUS,

TO CHURCHES, FESTIVALS, HOTELS, RESTAURANTS

PRICE BELOW ALL OTHERS, Depots, 305 4th ave., 1.288 Broadway, and 75 Chaffian et. PUSSELL'S ICE CREAM.

A successful record of 27 years has given FUSSELL'S LEE CREAM a reputation for purity, fichness, and flavor, unequalled.
To Church festivals and to the trade, 25 cents per quart; to
Families, \$1.20 per gallon.
12 HIBLE HOUSE and 623 6734 AVE.

Miscellancons.

A DVERTISEMENTS FOR THE NEW-YORK TRIBENE WILL, BE RECEIVED AT THE PTOWN OFFICES, NO. 1,238 Broadway, oor, Thirty firsts, or 308 West Twenty-finitest, or Laghtha ve., 7460 Third ave., cor. Forty seventh-st, at the HATLEM OFFICE, No. 2,231 Third ave., or, One-hundre I and towardy fourth-st. (Harlem Savings Bank Building), up to 8 p. m., at regular office rates.

DEBTS COLLECTED, little or big: no MONEY.—DIAMONDS, WATCHES, JEW-ELRY, SILVERWARE, &c., bought and sold back at a small advance. GEORGE C. AL-LEN, Jeweller, 1,190 Broadway, near 29th st.

NO HISSING, NO WASTE.

N. Y. TRIBLER, May 10, 1878.

GENTLEMEN: The saving which we think we can trace to the Ellis lurner, since its adoption in The Tribune Huilding, is about 15 per cent.

Very respectfulty.

WHITELAW REID.

WE GUARANTEE THE ABOVE SAVING, with a better light than can be produced by the argand or any burner in the market. Private buildings a specialty. Prompt attention to orders and inquiries by mail. Impuries by mail.

ELLIS PATENT GAS BURNER CO.,
No. 707 Broadway.

VERBATIM REPORTING and type-writing practically taught by a corps of the best law stenographers in the world. For references and circulars address W. O. WYCKOFF, Phonographic Institute, Diaga. N. V. MANURES,

Originated by Professor Stockbridge, Professor of Agriculture in the Massachusetts Agricultural College.

Made for each crop, furnishing the plant food which each requires. They have been used for five years with such success that in 1877 they were applied on over 10,000 acres with excellent results. Send for Pamphiet, Mailed Free. Also for sale, Agricultural Chemicals.

W. H. JOWKER & CO.,

3 Park-place.....New-York